

XXX.—On a new Species of *Tetragonops*. By P. L. SCLATER, M.A., Ph. D., F.R.S., &c. (Plate X.)

THROUGH the kindness of Prof. Baird, of the Smithsonian Institution, Washington, I am enabled to devote the final plate of this series of 'The Ibis' to the illustration of one of the most interesting novelties that I have met with since I commenced my editorial duties. In former volumes of this Journal I have written upon the American Barbets*, and given a figure of the anomalous form *Tetragonops ramphastinus*, which connects this group with the Toucans. I have now the pleasure of making known to my readers the existence of a second species of the same genus, which has been lately discovered by Dr. A. von Frantzius in the mountains of Costa Rica, and which Prof. Baird proposes to call, after its discoverer,

TETRAGONOPS FRANTZII, sp. nov. (Pl. X.)

Olivaceus: macula nuchali elongata nitente nigra: capite undique cum cervice, pectore et ventre medio flavido-fulvescentibus: semitorque pectorali utrinque cinereo, medialiter fere obsoleto: ventre imo crissoque olivaceis, medialiter flavicantibus: rostro plumbeo, apice pallido: pedibus nigris.

Long. tota 7·4 poll., alæ 3·4, caudæ 2·3, rostri a rictu 0·8, tarsi 1·0.

Hab. in int. reipubl. Costa Rica.

Mus. Smithsoniano.

The new species of *Tetragonops* is of considerably smaller size than the type species, *Tetragonops ramphastinus*, and so different in colouring that there is no possibility of their being confounded together. In general characters it is not so strongly marked, and is to some extent intermediate between *Capito* and *Tetragonops*, although certainly to be placed in the latter genus.

The bill is relatively as short as in *T. ramphastinus*; the keel between the nostrils is much elevated, and brought to a sharper edge than in the latter, but outside the nostrils is bevelled off at once, instead of being extended into a broad flattened surface. The curious bifurcation of the extremity of the lower mandible exists likewise in the new species.

The wings are short, reaching to about one-third of the dis-

* See 'Ibis,' 1861, p. 182, and 1862, p. 1.

tance from the base to the extremity of the tail. The first primary is short (about 1·1 in. in length from insertion); second 0·8 in. longer; fourth and fifth equal and largest; third rather shorter than seventh.

The tarsi and feet correspond with those of *T. ramphastinus*.

The tail of the single specimen is imperfect, but appears not to differ in form from that of the other species, consisting of ten rectrices, the two outermost of which are half an inch shorter than the medial.

Mr. Osbert Salvin suggests that the specimen may be a female of a more gaudily coloured male; and there are some points in its character, particularly the nearly obsolete grey pectoral band, only showing on each side of the breast, which lead me to think that the opinion may be correct. At present the specimen is unique; but I trust that Dr. A. von Frantzius (who, I believe, is still resident at San José) will before long obtain further examples of this singular bird, and let us know whether there is any distinction between the sexes.

XXXI.—*A Fortnight amongst the Sea-birds of British Honduras.*

By OSBERT SALVIN, M.A., F.L.S., &c.

AT daybreak of the 26th of April, 1862, I reached Belize from Vera Paz, by way of Peten and the Belize river; and finding no schooner in the harbour ready to sail for Yzabal, I seized the opportunity offered for collecting the sea-birds frequenting that part of the coast. It was no easy matter to gather reliable information respecting the haunts of the several species; so after a few short cruises in the neighbourhood, to Spanish Cay, St. George's Cay, Hick's Cay, &c., during which I obtained but a solitary species of Tern and an immature Man-of-war Bird (*Fregata aquila*), I saw at once that, if I wanted to succeed, it would be necessary to look up the birds in their breeding-haunts, and that the further I went, the greater would be my chance of finding them. After some delay, I made arrangements with one Sam Miller, a coloured Creole of Belize, the owner of a small schooner, the 'Mary Ann,' to take me to Lighthouse Reef and Glover's Reef, the outermost atolls of the

